

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW AUSTRALIAN FISHES.

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(Notes from the Australian Museum).

CHÆROPS MACLEAYI, sp. nov.

D. 13/7 : A. 3/10 : V. 1/5 : P. 18 : C. 14 : L. lat. 29 :
L. trans. 4/10.

Length of head $3\frac{3}{4}$, of caudal fin 5, height of body $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the total length. *Eye*—Diameter $3\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the head, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in that of the snout, and $\frac{2}{3}$ of a diameter apart. The interorbital space and upper profile of the head are convex, the cleft of the mouth small, not quite reaching to the front margin of eye. Preopercle minutely serrated (probably entire in large examples). *Teeth*—Four strong curved canines in front of each jaw ; lateral teeth confluent, the extreme tips only being free ; no posterior canine. *Fins*—The dorsal commences above the opercular flap ; its spines are strong, the last the longest, $\frac{2}{5}$ of the length of the head, but not so high as the rays ; the base of the soft dorsal is $\frac{2}{5}$ of that of the spinous. The anal commences beneath the 10th dorsal spine ; its last spine is the longest, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the length of the head. The ventral fins do not quite reach to the vent. The pectorals, which are rounded posteriorly, reach to opposite the 11th scale of the lateral line, and are $\frac{5}{8}$ of the length of the head. Caudal rounded. *Scales*—Large, thin, cycloid, and adherent on the body ; small and non-imbricate on the cheeks ; opercle with four rows ; base of dorsal fin scaly, that of anal not so. *Colors*—Uniform reddish-brown.

The specimen from which the above description was taken measures nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and was obtained in Port Jackson, a

locality very far south of the usual tropical habitat of the genus. We have taken this opportunity of naming the species after the Hon. William Macleay, a gentleman who has done so much towards the elucidation of our Australian Fish Fauna, and the promotion of natural science in general; and in whose collection the type specimen is contained.

LABRICHTHYS CYANOGENYS, sp. nov.

B. vi. : D. 9/11 : A. 3/10 : V. 1/5 : P. 13 : C. 14 : L. lat. 25 : L. trans. 3/9.

Length of head $3\frac{3}{4}$, of caudal fin $5\frac{1}{2}$, height of body $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the total length. *Eye*—Diameter $5\frac{2}{5}$ in the length of the head, 2 diameters from the end of the snout, and $1\frac{2}{5}$ apart. Interorbital space convex: upper profile of head abruptly convex before the eyes: jaws equal; maxilla extends to beneath middle of orbit. *Teeth*—Lower jaw with a row of strong conical teeth, the anterior pair very large, the others growing smaller posteriorly, 13 on each ramus; a row of similar, but much smaller, teeth behind these: upper jaw with a similar dentition, except that the two posterior teeth in each ramus are rather larger than those immediately preceding them, and the hinder row is irregularly duplicated: posterior canine strong. *Fins*—Dorsal spines rather weak, the last the longest, $\frac{2}{7}$ of the length of the head, and much shorter than the rays. Anal commences beneath the second dorsal ray, the third spine is the longest, about $\frac{1}{5}$ of the length of the head, and half that of the longest ray. Pectorals sinuous posteriorly, reaching to opposite the 8th scale of the lateral line, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the length of the head. Ventrals about equal in length to the pectorals, and reaching to the vent. Caudal rounded. *Scales*—Large, thin, cycloid, and adherent. Cheeks with two vertical rows of small scales behind the eyes. None at the base of the vertical fins. *Gill-rakers*—Short, broad, and divided at the tip; their length $\frac{3}{11}$ of the diameter of the eye. *Air-bladder*—Large. *Colors*—Reddish-brown with two broad transverse lilac bands, the first between the anterior rays of the soft dorsal and anal

fins; the second, not so well defined, on the free portion of the tail. Head greenish-blue above; opercles and cheeks lilac; intermandibular space indigo-blue. Dorsal and anal fins violet, the spinal part of the former tinged with yellow; caudal dull yellowish-brown, with the webs purple, and the outer angles brighter yellow. Ventrals and pectorals orange, the latter with a broad dark blue basal band. Irides golden.

The magnificent *Labrichthys* which we here describe, measures over 18 inches, and was captured in Broken Bay on the 12th instant. The stomach was crammed with the broken fragments of shells, including small oysters, *Patella*, and *Tapes*. Its flesh, even though labouring under the disadvantage of having been skinned, was excellent. Register number, I. 1245.